

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08

L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

OMB-01 RSR-01 /210 W

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P R 050932Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6583

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USEC BRUSSELS 669

OECD PARIS 2321

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 5019

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: GATT TOKYO MINISTERIAL MEETING ON MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS-SPANISH POSITION AND DELEGATION

REF: STATE 159293; MADRID 4650

1. AS A RESULT OF THE SUMMER HIATUS, ONLY TODAY HAS THE COMMERCE
MINISTRY FORMALLY AND FINALLY FORMULATED THE GOS POSITION TO BE
ADOPTED AT THE GATT MINISTERIAL MEETING IN TOKYO. THE COMMERCE
MINISTRY, WHICH HAS THE LEADING ROLE ON THIS ISSUE WITHIN THE GOS,
IS PRESENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF SENDING THE MTN POSITION PAPER FOR
THE GOS IT PREPARED AND RELATED MINISTERIAL SPEECH FOR CLEARANCE
TO THE OTHER CONCERNED MINISTRIES. THE DRAFTER OF THESE, JUAN
ANTONIO DEL CASTILLO (MINCOM SUB-DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MULTILATERAL
COMMERCIAL POLICY), TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT THE GOS DELEGATION WOULD
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NOT RAISE NEW QUESTIONS OR PROPOSALS FOR DRAFTING CHANGES TO THE

PREPCOM DECLARATION. HE DID, HOWEVER, ELABORATE ON THE SPANISH VIEW WHICH PLACES SPAIN IN AN INTERMEDIARY POSITION BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS, A POSITION WHICH THE GOS HOPES TO UTILIZE IN THE MTN FOR CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSES. THE OUTLINES OF THIS POSITION FOLLOW:

A. SPAIN IS A MEMBER OF THE GROUP OF COUNTRIES IDENTIFIED IN GATT AS "DEVELOPING". ACCORDINGLY, IT CAN BE EXPECTED, TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, TO ASSUME COMMON POSITIONS WITH THIS GROUP BUT NOT TO SUCH EXTREMES AS, FOR EXAMPLE, CHILE.

B. AS ONE OF THE 12 SIGNATORIES OF THE FEBRUARY 1973 PROTOCOL FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SPAIN HOPES TO SEE ESTABLISHED A "PARALLEL" NEGOTIATION WITHIN THE GATT THAT WOULD ENCOMPASS ONLY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE GOS AIM WOULD BE TO ATTRACT OTHER SIGNATORIES TO THE PROTOCOL IN ADDITION TO THE ORIGINAL 12 AND WOULD NOT LIMIT IT SOLELY TO THE MORE DEVELOPED OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS AT PRESENT. THE SPANISH VIEW IS THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT ASK FOR SO MUCH HELP FROM THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES BUT RATHER SHOULD SEEK TO HELP THEMSELVES. DEL CASTILLO STATED THAT SPAIN IS PROBABLY THE MOST DEVELOPED OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND IS CONSEQUENTLY PREPARED TO ASSUME A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THIS. SPAIN THEREFORE WOULD LIKE TO SEE NOT ONLY A LARGER GROUP OF COUNTRIES SIGNING THE 20 FEBRUARY 1973 PROTOCOL BUT WOULD ALSO URGE THAT THOSE MORE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WITHIN THE DEVELOPING BLOC, LIKE THEMSELVES, GRANT DEEPER AND BROADER CONCESSIONS TO THE LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ADHERING TO THE PROTOCOL IN A FORM OF "RELATIVE RECIPROCITY". UNDER THIS PROPOSAL GABON, AS AN EXAMPLE, WOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE SPAIN THE SAME SORT OF DIRECTLY RECIPROCAL CONCESSIONS AS SPAIN WOULD GRANT GABON. THIS PROPOSAL, IT WAS FELT, WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SINCE IT WOULD TAKE SOME OF THE LDC HEAT OFF OF THEM. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE OBSERVED, CERTAIN COUNTRIES SUCH AS ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL, WHICH ARE AT THE SAME APPROXIMATE STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT AS SPAIN, WOULD NOT BE HAPPY WITH THE PROPOSAL SINCE THEY SEEK STRICT RECIPROCITY, PROVIDING NO ALLOWANCES FOR THEIR LESSER DEVELOPED TRADING PARTNERS.

2. DEL CASTILLO SAID THAT WHILE MTN PARTICIPATION IS NOT YET FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE GOS, THERE WAS NOT MUCH QUESTION ABOUT SPAIN'S WILLINGNESS TO TAKE PART.

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3. THE SPANISH DELEGATION IS CONFIRMED AS REPORTED REFTEL WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS: CHAVARRI WILL NOT BE ATTENDING, HOWEVER, HIS ASSISTANT JAVIER ELORZA WILL. CERON WILL BE THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF DELEGATION. DEL CASTILLO, WHO SEEMS TO BE DEVELOPING AS A VERY KEY PERSON IN SPANISH TRADE POLICY MATTERS, WILL ALSO ATTEND. ALBERTO CERCOS, TECHNICAL SECRETARY GENERAL, AND FRANCISCO BOTELLA, VICE TECHNICAL SECRETARY GENERAL, WILL REPRESENT THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. EMILIO CANSECO, VICE TECHNICAL SECRETARY GENERAL,

WILL BE THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE REPRESENTATIVE.
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